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Applicants: Jan Zavada et al.

Group: 1600

Serial No.: 09/967,237

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed : September 27, 2001

Examiner:

For : MN Gene and Protein

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-reference application, please amend the Specification as indicated below.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/178,115 (filed October 23, 1998), which will issue as U.S. Patent No. 6,297,041 on October 2, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/787,739 (filed January 24, 1997), which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,027,887 on February 22, 2000,

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